

09/456,833

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Yoshikazu SAKAMOTO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/456,833

Art Unit: 3713

Filed: December 7, 1999

Examiner: J. Hotaling

For: GAMING MACHINE

**SUBMISSION OF STATEMENT
OF COMMON OWNERSHIP**

Assistant Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box: AF

RECEIVED

AUG 12 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Applicant submits with this paper the Statement of Common Ownership. This Statement of Common Ownership was referred to at page four of the Amendment filed on March 18, 2002, but inadvertently was not attached to the Amendment.

In the detailed portion of the Office Action dated July 17, 2002 the Examiner stated:

"The statement of Common Ownership is not conformance with 35 USC § 103 which states that 'Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.'"

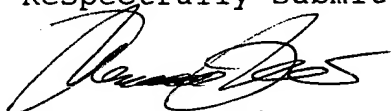
The Examiner further states that there was no evidence of Common Ownership at the time this invention was made and, accordingly, the previous rejection was being maintained.

It should have been clear to the Examiner that there was no Statement of Common Ownership. The only thing that the Examiner is apparently referring to is the discussion of the Statement of Common Ownership found in the Remarks portion of the Amendment of March 18, 2002. This, however, is in the Remarks, not a sworn Statement as required.

Submitted herewith is the missing Statement of Common Ownership which clearly overcomes paragraph 1 of the detailed portion of the Office Action dated July 17, 2002. Therefore, the rejection in paragraph 1 should now be withdrawn.

In the event there is any reason why the Statement of Common Ownership is not acceptable in its current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald R. Snider
Reg. No. 24,962

Date: August 9, 2002

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